

[0181] FIG. 7C depicts another non-limiting embodiment, which can be substantially similar to the embodiment depicted with reference to FIG. 7B, but in the embodiment depicted in FIG. 7C, the communication session handling entity 112 can be coupled to the multi-party call entity 110 via a connection. The connection can be embodied in an Ethernet connection, a local area network, a wireless connection, a separate data network, a WAN or any other suitable data connection. The communication session handling entity 112 can generate a signal 700C and to transmit the signal 700C to the multi-party call entity 110 via the connection.

[0182] It should be noted that various alternatives of how the stage where the indication of the user's desire to establish the communication session can be implemented (ex. FIGS. 5A-5B), various alternatives of how the stage where at least one call parameter is retrieved from the memory for maintaining scheduling data can be implemented (ex. FIGS. 6A-6C), and various alternatives of how the stage where the communication session is caused to be established can be implemented (ex. FIGS. 7A-7C) can be combined in various arrangements and all the different combinations are within the scope of the embodiments of the present invention. Just as an example and not as a limitation, the stage where the indication of the user's desire is received can be implemented as described with reference to FIG. 5B, the stage where the at least one call parameter is retrieved can be implemented as described with reference to FIG. 6B and the stage where the communication session is caused to be established can be implemented as described with reference to FIG. 7C. In this specific non-limiting example, the communication session handling entity 112 may not need to be coupled to the communication network 206. It should be explicitly understood that other combinations are possible and are within the scope of embodiments of the present invention.

[0183] It should be further noted that various steps need not be implemented in a single apparatus and can be distributed among various entities. For example, a first entity can perform the stage where the indication of the user's desire to establish the communication session is received and a first portion of the stage where at least one call parameter is retrieved from the memory for maintaining scheduling data (i.e. to transmit a request for the scheduling data). A second entity can perform a second portion of the stage where at least one call parameter is retrieved from the memory for maintaining scheduling data (i.e. to receive the at least one call parameter) and the stage where the communication session is caused to be established.

[0184] Even though the foregoing description has been presented with reference to the user 102a using a computing apparatus to generate a scheduling event that includes at least one call parameter, it should be understood that when and how the user 102a generates the scheduling event and/or the at least one call parameter is not particularly limiting. For example, in some non-limiting embodiments of the present invention, the user 102a can use a voice interface to populate the scheduling events. In an alternative embodiment of the present invention, the time when the user provides at least one call parameter can be different from the time when the user generates the scheduling event. For example, the user 102a may provide an indication of at least one call parameter at a time of providing the aforementioned activation signal for one or more scheduling events that have been provisioned at an earlier time. Once again, it should be explicitly noted that how or when the scheduling event and/or the at least one call

parameter is generated is immaterial, as long as the at least one call parameter (or another identifier that can be used for obtaining the at least one call parameter) is available at the time when the respective communication session is to be established.

[0185] Those skilled in the art will appreciate that certain functionality of the communication session handling entity 112, the scheduling server 108', the auxiliary scheduling server 109 and/or other elements of the infrastructure described herein may be implemented as pre-programmed hardware or firmware elements (e.g., application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), electrically erasable programmable read-only memories (EEPROMs), etc.), or other related components. In other embodiments, certain portions of the communication session handling entity 112, the scheduling server 108', the auxiliary scheduling server 109 and/or other elements may be implemented as an arithmetic and logic unit (ALU) having access to a code memory (not shown) which stores program instructions for the operation of the ALU. The program instructions could be stored on a medium which is fixed, tangible and readable directly by the communication session handling entity 112, the scheduling server 108', the auxiliary scheduling server 109 and/or other elements, (e.g., removable diskette, CD-ROM, ROM, fixed disk, USB drive), or the program instructions could be stored remotely but transmittable to the communication session handling entity 112, the scheduling server 108', the auxiliary scheduling server 109 and/or other elements via a modem or other interface device.

[0186] Persons skilled in the art will appreciate that there are yet more alternative implementations and modifications possible for implementing the present invention, and that the above implementations and examples are only illustrations of one or more embodiments of the present invention. The scope of the invention, therefore, is only to be limited by the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of handling establishment of a communication session comprising:
 - receiving an indication of user's desire to cause establishment of the communication session;
 - accessing a memory for maintaining scheduling data in an attempt to retrieve at least one call parameter associated with the communication session;
 - causing the communication session to be established with a communication device associated with the user via a communication network using the at least one call parameter.
2. The method defined in claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises receiving a call from the communication device associated with the user via the communication network.
3. The method defined in claim 2, wherein said call has been originated by one of:
 - the user pressing a hot key;
 - the user pressing a soft key;
 - the user dialing a telephone number associated with the communication session handling entity;
 - the user dialing a pre-defined sequence of keys on the communication device.
4. The method defined in claim 1, wherein said receiving comprises at least one of:
 - receiving an SMS message;
 - receiving a text message via a text messaging application;
 - receiving an e-mail;